

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1.-105. (Cancelled)

106. (New) An image acquisition module for monitoring applications of the external surroundings of a vehicle, comprising:

a housing with an interior protected against at least moisture and a window hermetically closed by a transparent element;

an electronic circuit accommodated in said housing and associated with connection means for supply and/or bidirectional signal exchange with the exterior;

an image detector connected to said electronic circuit and opposed to said window;

a support attached to the housing to carry an optic system between said image detector and said window;

a mounting adapter comprising an opening allowing light to pass towards said window and a visor element and a gutter element protecting said window from luminous incidence and from external agents; and

positioning means for positioning said mounting adapter with respect said optic system and releasable fixation means for releasably fixing the module to an external structure of a vehicle,

wherein

the housing and the mounting adapter comprise respective first and second releasable fixation members and respective first and second centering members cooperating with each other for releasable fixing the housing to said mounting adapter and for positioning the window with respect to said opening, said visor element and said gutter element, and

the mounting adapter comprises releasable fixation portions for releasable fixing said

mounting adapter to said external structure of a vehicle.

107. (New) The module, according to claim 106, wherein said first releasable fixation members comprise shoulders formed in the housing and said second releasable fixation members comprise at least a pair of elastic arms extending from the mounting adapter and laterally embracing the housing, said elastic arms having end projections attaching by snap-fit on said shoulders in the housing.

108. (New) The module, according to claim 106, wherein said first releasable fixation members comprise said support for the optical system on the housing and said second releasable fixation members comprise a tubular configuration formed in the mounting adapter externally plug connected around said support for the optical system.

109. (New) The module, according to claim 106, wherein said first centering members comprise stubs protruding from the housing and said second centering members comprise support members formed in the mounting adapter, said support members being in contact with the housing and the support members having holes in which said stubs are inserted.

110. (New) The module, according to claim 106, wherein said releasable fixation portions comprised in the mounting adapter for releasable fixing the mounting adapter to the external structure of a vehicle are selected from a group including snap-fitting elastic portions, screw receiving portions, and form-fitting fixation portions.

111. (New) The module, according to claim 106, wherein said exterior structure of a vehicle is an exterior rear view mirror housing of a vehicle.

112. (New) The module, according to claim 106, wherein said visor element is in a small angle inclined outwards and upwards with respect to a central vision line of the image detector, said small angle being approximately within an interval from 0 to 15 degrees.

113. (New) The module, according to claim 106, wherein the window is arranged in a plane and has a window diameter, and a distance between said plane and zones of the visor and/or gutter elements most protruding from said plane is not less than said window diameter.

114. (New) An image acquisition module for monitoring applications of the external surroundings of a vehicle, comprising:

a housing with an interior protected against at least moisture and a window hermetically closed by a transparent element;

an electronic circuit accommodated in said housing and associated with connection means for supply and/or bidirectional signal exchange with the exterior;

an image detector connected to said electronic circuit and opposed to said window;

a support attached to the housing to carry an optic system between said image detector and said window;

a mounting adapter comprising an opening allowing light pass towards said window and a visor element protecting said window from luminous incidence and from external agents; and

positioning means for positioning said mounting adapter with respect said optic system and releasable fixation means for releasably fixing the module to an external structure of a vehicle,

wherein

the housing and the mounting adapter comprise respective first and second releasable fixation members and respective first and second centering members cooperating with each other for releasable fixing the housing to said mounting adapter and for positioning the window with respect to said opening and said visor element, and

the mounting adapter comprises releasable fixation portions for releasable fixing said mounting adapter to said external structure of a vehicle.

115. (New) The module, according to claim 114, wherein said first releasable fixation members comprise shoulders formed in the housing and said second releasable fixation members comprise at least a pair of elastic arms extending from the mounting adapter and laterally embracing the housing, said elastic arms having end projections attaching by snap-fit on said shoulders in the housing.

116. (New) The module, according to claim 114, wherein said first releasable fixation members comprise said support for the optical system on the housing and said second

releasable fixation members comprise a tubular configuration formed in the mounting adapter externally plug connected around said support for the optical system.

117. (New) The module, according to claim 106, wherein said first centering members comprise stubs protruding from the housing and said second centering members comprise support members formed in the mounting adapter, said support members being in contact with the housing and the support members having holes in which said stubs are inserted.

118. (New) The module, according to claim 114, wherein said releasable fixation portions comprised in the mounting adapter for releasable fixing the mounting adapter to the external structure of a vehicle are selected from a group including snap-fitting elastic portions, screw receiving portions, and form-fitting fixation portions.

119. (New) The module, according to claim 114, wherein said exterior structure of a vehicle is an exterior rear view mirror housing of a vehicle.

120. (New) The module, according to claim 114, wherein said visor element is in a small angle inclined outwards and upwards with respect to a central vision line of the image detector, said small angle being approximately within an interval from 0 to 15 degrees.

121. (New) The module, according to claim 114, wherein the window is arranged in a plane and has a window diameter, and a distance between said plane and zones of the visor element most protruding from said plane is not less than said window diameter.